

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An image forming device comprising:
 - a photosensitive drum adapted for supporting a static-electric latent image on its surface;
 - a developing roller adapted to bear developer, the developing roller being disposed in confrontation and in contact with the surface of the photosensitive drum;
 - a photosensitive drum driver that drives rotation of the photosensitive drum;
 - a developing roller driver that drives rotation of the developing roller;
 - a drive controller that controls the developing roller driver to ~~one of~~ stop driving the developing roller and maintain the developing roller in a non-rotating ~~condition, condition~~ while controlling the photosensitive drum driver to drive the photosensitive drum to rotate, ~~the drive controller also controlling the photosensitive drum driver to start rotation of the photosensitive drum when the developing roller is stopped;~~
 - ~~a charge unit that charges the surface of the photosensitive drum to a uniform charge;~~
 - ~~an exposure unit that exposes the uniformly-charged surface of the photosensitive drum to form the static-electric latent image on the surface of the photosensitive drum; and~~
 - ~~a developing bias application unit that applies a developing bias to the developing roller during image forming periods,~~
 - ~~wherein the drive controller, during the portion of the non-image forming period when the drive controller controls the developing roller driver to stop driving and the photosensitive drum driver to drive, controls:~~

the charge unit to uniformly charge the surface portion of the photosensitive drum;

the exposure unit to not perform exposing operations; and

the developing bias application unit to apply a bias to the developing roller the same as the developing bias applied during image forming periods.

2. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the developer is a polymerized toner produced by polymerizing a monomer that has polymerizing properties.

3. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 2, further comprising:

a visible image transfer unit that transfers the visible image from the photosensitive drum onto another medium; and

a toner cleaning member in contact with the photosensitive drum and for removing residual toner that remains on the photosensitive drum after the visible image transfer unit transfers the visible image from the photosensitive drum onto the other medium.

4. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the developing roller includes:

a resilient roller portion; and

a surface coat layer covering the roller portion and having a hardness greater than hardness of the roller portion.

5. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the developer has a charge-to-mass ratio Q/M having an absolute value of 10 micro coulombs /gram or greater.

6. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the photosensitive drum has a photosensitive layer formed from a dispersion-type, single layer, organic photosensitive material.

7. Cancelled.

8. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a rotation prevention mechanism that blocks rotation of the developing roller while the drive controller controls the developing roller driver to stop driving the developing roller.

9. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a visible image transfer unit that transfers the visible image from the photosensitive drum onto another medium, the drive controller controlling, during a non-image forming period after the visible image transfer unit transfers the visible image from the photosensitive drum, the developing roller driver to stop driving first and then the photosensitive drum driver to stop driving.

10. Cancelled.

11. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a visible image transfer unit that transfers the visible image from the photosensitive drum onto another medium, the drive controller controlling, during a non-image forming period before the visible image transfer unit transfers the visible image from the photosensitive drum onto the medium, the photosensitive drum driver to start driving first and then the developing roller driver to start driving.

12-14. Cancelled.

15. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a plurality of photosensitive drums and developing rollers for producing a plurality of image colors.

16. (Original) An image forming device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the developing roller is adapted to bear nonmagnetic, single component developer for developing the static-electric latent image on the photosensitive drum into a visible image.

17. (Currently Amended) An image forming device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the drive controller controls the developing roller driver to ~~one-of~~ stop driving the developing roller and maintain the developing roller in a non-rotating condition during at least a portion of a non-image forming period in an image formation process.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of removing film from the surface of a photosensitive drum that is in contact with a developing roller, the method comprising:
starting rotation of the photosensitive drum while the developing roller is maintained in a non-rotating condition so that surface of the photosensitive drum rubs against the developing roller; and

subsequently starting rotation of the developing roller; and
subsequently stopping rotation of the developing roller into a non-rotating condition so that surface of the still-rotating photosensitive drum rubs against the developing roller,

wherein the step of subsequently stopping rotation of the developing roller is performed during a non-image forming period after a rear edge of a last sheet passes through a nip portion between the photosensitive drum and a transfer roller.

19. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the rotation of the photosensitive drum is started in accordance with a command to start an image formation process.

20-21. Cancelled.

22. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 2018, further comprising a step of separating the photosensitive drum and the developing roller from each other that is

performed one of simultaneously with and prior to the step of subsequently stopping rotation of the developing roller.

23. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the step of subsequently starting rotation of the developing roller is performed during a non-image forming period before a front edge of a first sheet passes through a nip portion between the photosensitive drum and a transfer roller.

24. (Currently Amended) A method of removing film from the surface of a photosensitive drum that is in contact with a developing roller, the method comprising:

starting rotation of the photosensitive drum and the developing roller substantially simultaneously; and

subsequently stopping rotation of the developing roller to bring the developing roller into a non-rotating condition while maintaining the photosensitive drum in a rotating condition so that surface of the photosensitive drum rubs against the developing roller,

wherein the step of subsequently stopping rotation of the developing roller is performed during a non-image forming period after a rear edge of a last sheet passes through a nip portion between the photosensitive drum and a transfer roller.

25-26. Cancelled.

27. (New) An image forming device comprising:

a photosensitive drum adapted for supporting a static-electric latent image on its surface;

a developing roller adapted to bear developer, the developing roller being disposed in confrontation and in contact with the surface of the photosensitive drum;

a photosensitive drum driver that drives rotation of the photosensitive drum;

a developing roller driver that drives rotation of the developing roller;

a drive controller that controls the developing roller driver to stop driving the developing roller and maintain the developing roller in a non-rotating condition while controlling the photosensitive drum driver to drive the photosensitive drum to rotate, the drive controller also controlling the photosensitive drum driver to start rotation of the photosensitive drum when the developing roller is stopped; and

a visible image transfer unit that transfers the visible image from the photosensitive drum onto another medium, the drive controller controlling, during a non-image forming period after the visible image transfer unit transfers the visible image from the photosensitive drum, the developing roller driver to stop driving first and then the photosensitive drum driver to stop driving,

wherein the drive controller controls, from a condition wherein both the photosensitive drum driver and the developing roller driver are driving, the developing roller driver to stop driving, then the developing roller driver to again drive, then the photosensitive drum driver to stop driving and controls the developing roller driver to stop driving at a time, the time being one of simultaneously and afterward.

28. (New) An image forming device as claimed in claim 27, wherein the developer is a polymerized toner produced by polymerizing a monomer that has polymerizing properties.

29. (New) An image forming device as claimed in claim 28, further comprising:
a visible image transfer unit that transfers the visible image from the photosensitive drum onto another medium; and
a toner cleaning member in contact with the photosensitive drum and for removing residual toner that remains on the photosensitive drum after the visible image transfer unit transfers the visible image from the photosensitive drum onto the other medium.

30. (New) An image forming device as claimed in claim 27, wherein the developing roller includes:

a resilient roller portion; and

a surface coat layer covering the roller portion and having a hardness greater than hardness of the roller portion.

31. (New) An image forming device as claimed in claim 27, wherein the developer has a charge-to-mass ratio Q/M having an absolute value of 10 micro coulombs /gram or greater.

32. (New) An image forming device as claimed in claim 27, wherein the photosensitive drum has a photosensitive layer formed from a dispersion-type, single layer, organic photosensitive material.

33. (New) An image forming device as claimed in claim 27 further comprising a rotation prevention mechanism that blocks rotation of the developing roller while the drive controller controls the developing roller driver to stop driving the developing roller.

34. (New) An image forming device as claimed in claim 27, further comprising a visible image transfer unit that transfers the visible image from the photosensitive drum onto another medium, the drive controller controlling, during a non-image forming period before the visible image transfer unit transfers the visible image from the photosensitive drum onto the medium, the photosensitive drum driver to start driving first and then the developing roller driver to start driving.

35. (New) An image forming device as claimed in claim 27, further comprising a plurality of photosensitive drums and developing rollers for producing a plurality of image colors.

36. (New) An image forming device as claimed in claim 27, wherein the developing roller is adapted to bear nonmagnetic, single component developer for developing the static-electric latent image on the photosensitive drum into a visible image.

37. (New) An image forming device as claimed in claim 27, wherein the drive controller controls the developing roller driver to stop driving the developing roller and maintain the developing roller in a non-rotating condition during at least a portion of a non-image forming period in an image formation process.

38. (New) An image forming device comprising:

 a photosensitive drum adapted for supporting a static-electric latent image on its surface;

 a developing roller adapted to bear developer, the developing roller being disposed in confrontation and in contact with the surface of the photosensitive drum;

 a photosensitive drum driver that drives rotation of the photosensitive drum;

 a developing roller driver that drives rotation of the developing roller, the photosensitive drum and the developing roller being contactable with each other and separable from each other; and

 a drive controller that controls the developing roller driver to stop driving the developing roller and maintain the developing roller in a non-rotating condition while controlling the photosensitive drum driver to drive the photosensitive drum to rotate, the drive controller also controlling the photosensitive drum driver to start rotation of the photosensitive drum when the developing roller is stopped;

 the drive controller also controlling the photosensitive drum driver and the developing roller driver to rotate the photosensitive drum at least once while the developing roller and the photosensitive roller are in contact with each other and then to stop the rotation of the photosensitive drum after stopping rotation of the developing roller.

39. (New) An image forming device as claimed in claim 38, further comprising a contact/separating unit that selectively brings the photosensitive drum and the developing roller into contact with each other and separates the photosensitive drum and the developing roller, the contact/separating unit separating the photosensitive drum and the developing roller from each other after the photosensitive drum is rotated at least once, the photosensitive drum driver stopping the rotation of the photosensitive drum after the separation.

40. (New) An image forming device, comprising:

a photosensitive drum adapted for supporting a static-electric latent image on its surface;

a developing roller adapted to bear developer, the developing roller being disposed in confrontation and in contact with the surface of the photosensitive drum;

a photosensitive drum driver that drives rotation of the photosensitive drum;

a developing roller driver that drives rotation of the developing roller, the photosensitive drum and the developing roller being contactable with each other and separable from each other;

a drive controller that controls the developing roller driver to stop driving the developing roller and maintain the developing roller in a non-rotating condition while controlling the photosensitive drum driver to drive the photosensitive drum to rotate, the drive controller also controlling the photosensitive drum driver to start rotation of the photosensitive drum when the developing roller is stopped;

the drive controller also controlling the photosensitive drum driver and the developing roller driver to start rotation of the developing roller after the photosensitive drum starts rotation and rotates at least once.

41. (New) An image forming device as claimed in claim 40, further comprising a contact/separating unit that selectively brings the photosensitive drum and the developing

roller into contact with each other and separates the photosensitive drum and the developing roller, the drive controller also controlling the photosensitive drum driver to rotate the photosensitive drum while the photosensitive drum and the developing roller are separated from each other, and the drive controller also controlling the developing roller driver to start rotation of the developing roller after the contact/separating unit making contact of the photosensitive drum with the developing roller.

42. (New) A method of removing film from the surface of a photosensitive drum that is in contact with a developing roller, the method comprising:

starting rotation of the photosensitive drum and the developing roller substantially simultaneously;

subsequently stopping rotation of the developing roller to bring the developing roller into a non-rotating condition while maintaining the photosensitive drum in a rotating condition so that surface of the photosensitive drum rubs against the developing roller;

again starting rotation of the developing roller after the step of subsequently stopping rotation of the developing roller; and

subsequently simultaneously stopping rotation of the photosensitive drum and the developing roller.